

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING JEREMY HISSONG'S EFFORTS TO SUPPORT HOMELESS STUDENTS

HON. ADAM KINZINGER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 29, 2013

Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an inspiring effort to support homeless students in Rockford, Illinois. Under the leadership of Jeremy Hissong, friends and neighbors of the Rockford School District banded together to collect clothes and school supplies to benefit the District's homeless student program.

After learning of the over 1,200 homeless children in the Rockford Public School District, Mr. Hissong utilized social media and the internet to organize "Kids Need Us" to gather support for a supply drive. His employer, Mondelez International, provided space in its parking lot for volunteers to collect needed supplies from the community such as socks, pants, coats, hats, pens, and paper to be donated to the homeless student program.

I applaud Mr. Hissong, and the community, for their success in bringing people together, gathering needed items, and educating the public about the awful reality of youth homelessness in our communities. This story of action is an important reminder of the victims of a slow economy and the importance of taking action in order to help those most in need.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 16th District of Illinois, I wish to express our deep appreciation for Jeremy Hissong's work and the rest of the community for their support of this important cause.

WATER RESOURCES REFORM AND DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 2013

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 23, 2013

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3080) to provide for improvements to the rivers and harbors of the United States, to provide for the conservative and development of water and related resources, and for other purposes:

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Chair, I want to thank Committee Chairman SHUSTER and Ranking Member RAHALL, as well as Subcommittee Chairman GIBBS and Ranking Member BISHOP for their hard work in putting together a bill that all of us can support. There are many good things in the bill and a few things that still need some work.

The Water Resources Reform and Development Act (WRRDA) is a vitally important bill to my constituents in the 3rd District of California. The levee projects that are authorized will provide life-saving protection for residents

throughout California's flood prone Central Valley, while other construction projects will help to rebuild our crumbling water infrastructure and create jobs. The improvements to revitalize our ports and waterways will bolster business development and ensure that products grown and manufactured in the United States will continue to be exported around the world.

I commend Committee leadership for finding a way to authorize much needed projects without violating the earmark ban. The Natomas Levee Improvement Project will be authorized when this bill becomes law, resulting in increased flood protection for thousands of residents in the Sacramento area. However, there is more we could do. There are approximately 15 projects that have Chief's Reports in the pipeline. They aren't yet completed, but should be in the next several months. I urge an expansion of the authorization to include those projects that will have completed Chief's Reports by the end of the Fiscal Year so that important projects like the one in the Sutter Basin can begin work without wondering when we might get around to passing another WRDA bill.

Much needed language was included to instruct the Corps to revise its regulations regarding levee vegetation. Each part of the country is different and it is vital that the Corps have the flexibility to make determinations based on the individual community and what is needed to provide the most protection. As the bill moves forward in the process, I urge my colleagues to be open to discussing changes to the crediting provisions. Crediting is critical to ensure timely investments in public infrastructure and encourage local communities to start sooner than later to respond to flood threats. One slight change I would like to see would be to move the milestone earlier as to when a non-federal sponsor of a project could begin receiving credit. This does not obligate additional federal funds, nor does it guarantee a non-federal sponsor will receive credit. It merely lets local communities begin to address risks to the public safety as soon as possible.

The Committee has taken strides to reform the way money in the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund (HMTF) is spent. Over the next several years, more funding will be funneled back to our ports to ensure those paying into the fund actually receive the dollars back to maintain the infrastructure. Again, more can be done to make sure California gets a fair shake. Most of our ports are donors to the fund, but get little back. The world is only getting smaller and we must do all that we can to ensure American products can get out of our country and into the global market. All of our ports are important to international trade and all should get adequate funding to be the best they can be.

This bill is a milestone in a divided Congress and represents compromise in an era of partisanship. A vote for this bill today is a vote for jobs and for our economy, two things we can all support.

HONORING THE CAREER OF JUSTICE THOMAS KILBRIDE

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 29, 2013

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Justice Thomas Kilbride, who just completed his term as Chief Justice of the Illinois Supreme Court on October 25th. Justice Kilbride received his law degree from Antioch School in Washington, DC, and practiced law for 20 years in the 17th District of Illinois before being elected to the Illinois Supreme Court in 2000. He graciously conducted a ceremonial swearing in for me in Rock Island after I took office in the U.S. House of Representatives in January.

Justice Kilbride made a great impact on public access to the law during his term as Chief Justice. He promoted the increased use of technology in the court, spearheading efforts to put cameras in Illinois courtrooms and allowing electronic filing of many documents for the Supreme Court.

Additionally, Justice Kilbride formed the Illinois Supreme Court Access to Justice Commission, as he explained, in order to "make access to justice a high priority for everyone in the legal system." Among other accomplishments, the Commission has broadened the use of standardized legal forms in plain English to make it easier for people to navigate the law without needing to hire an attorney.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Justice Kilbride for his friendship, his commendable work as Chief Justice and his dedication to making the law accessible to everyone in Illinois.

TRIBUTE TO CHARLEY GREENE DIXON, JR.

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 29, 2013

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a dear friend and true leader for southern Kentucky, Charley Greene Dixon, Jr., in honor of his selection as the 2013 Knox County Chamber of Commerce Man of the Year.

During his ten-year service as the Knox County Attorney, Charley Greene Dixon witnessed first-hand how the prescription drug abuse epidemic destroyed the lives of countless families in our region. The rapid rate of overdose deaths and repeat drug trafficking offenders funneling through his courtroom stirred a passion within him to do more—to try to save the lives of his neighbors and their children. In response, Charley played a key role in establishing Juvenile, Family and Adult Drug Courts in his hometown, and he remains a steadfast advocate for expanding drug-free

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

education and treatment efforts across our region. I count it an honor to stand shoulder-to-shoulder with Charley in this fight for our communities.

Outside of the courtroom, Charley Greene Dixon has rallied efforts in our schools and communities, as Chairman of the Knox County UNITE Coalition. Through his dedicated support, thousands of young people have had the opportunity to attend drug-free events like, Hooked on Fishing Not on Drugs, a prevention camp, as well as faith-based walks, parades, along with basketball and cheerleading programs. He has undoubtedly inspired countless young people to break the cycle of addiction in their families, encouraging them to dream big and to accomplish great things through a life of sobriety.

Additionally, Charley has worked diligently to obtain several instrumental grants for Knox County, including a victim advocate grant, a truancy prevention grant, and an environmental PRIDE award. Those grant dollars have been vital to the growth, security, and health of area communities.

Despite his battle with cancer, Charley's passion for progress in Knox County is still holding strong. He continues to serve as a member of the Knox County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors and President of the region's Bar Association. He is also very active in his church, serving as an usher for the past 15 years and a trustee for two years.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring a champion for southern Kentucky, Charley Greene Dixon, Jr. His recognition as the Knox County Chamber of Commerce Man of the Year is duly warranted and I wish Charley the very best in the years to come.

MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE

HON. ALAN NUNNELEE

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 29, 2013

Mr. NUNNELEE. Mr. Speaker, Mississippi College, the oldest institution of higher learning in the state of Mississippi and the second oldest Baptist university in the United States, recently celebrated the opening of its 187th school year. Mississippi College has since pre-Civil War days provided students from across the state and around the world an education informed by Christian values, and was the first co-educational institution in the nation to grant a degree to a woman.

The university has a long and distinguished history of educating future public servants, counting current leaders in federal and state government among her alumna, including current Third Congressional District Rep. Gregg Harper, and current Mississippi Gov. Phil Bryant. As a member of the Board of Trustees I am also proud to recognize the leadership of Order of the Golden Arrow recipient Gayle Wicker has provided to the university's presidents through the years. Mississippi College, located in Clinton, is a proud constituent of the Second Congressional District represented by Rep. Bennie Thompson.

For 64 years, students have received exemplary training in areas of speech, media, public relations, theater and related practices in the Mississippi College Communication Depart-

ment. Founded in 1949 by Drs. Hollis and Julia Todd as the Department of Speech, the current Communication Department presented diplomas to hundreds of students who have subsequently experienced personal and career success in their chosen fields. Among its alumni, the department prides itself by seeing former graduates become leaders in fields as diverse as business and ministry, education and journalism.

The faculty of the Mississippi College Communication Department embodies dedicated and sustained service to the university and its mission. In fact, only three men have chaired the department over the span of its 64 years: Dr. Hollis Todd, Dr. Billy Lytal, for whom the annual student scholarship fund is named, and current chair Dr. Cliff Fortenberry. With a teaching philosophy built around the practical application of theory and curriculum, departmental faculty are teachers first, individuals who view their service at Mississippi College as an investment in their students' lives and in their community.

The Mississippi College Communication Department currently enrolls undergraduates in interpersonal and public communication, journalism, mass media, public relations, and theater concentrations, and offers graduate degrees in journalism, health services communication, professional communication in sports, and public relations and corporate communication. Leading in innovative online classroom offerings, the communication department partners with other academic departments to offer unique degree programs to meet student and market demands.

With a current enrollment of over 5,000 students and future leaders, Mississippi College seeks to be known as a university recognized for academic excellence and commitment to the cause of Christ. The faculty, staff, students and alumni of the Mississippi College Communication Department are proud to fulfill this vision as the department enters its 65th year of service.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE ONE YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF HURRI- CANE SANDY

HON. PETER T. KING

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 29, 2013

Mr. KING of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise to reflect on the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy, which made landfall one year ago.

Super Storm Sandy was the second largest natural disaster in our nation's history and the second costliest. New York State alone incurred \$32.8 billion in damage, \$8.4 billion of which was on Long Island. 305,000 homes and 265,300 businesses in the state were damaged or destroyed. While these numbers are shocking, they don't begin to tell the story of the suffering my constituents experienced.

This devastation was exacerbated by the failure of Congress to provide immediate aid to the affected communities. The Northeast was forced to wait more than three months for a federal aid package, thereby delaying the region's recovery. Fortunately, this assistance is beginning to flow and communities are in the process of rebuilding.

While we have made progress, the road to recovery remains long and difficult. Thousands

of New York and New Jersey residents are still displaced and others are living in partially repaired homes. Infrastructure throughout the region awaits repair and needs to be hardened. I am confident that with the continued commitment of state and federal partners, our communities will rebound and come out stronger than ever.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN AND MARY PAPPAJOHN

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 29, 2013

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor John and Mary Pappajohn for being the named the 2013 recipients of Eli and Edythe Broad Award for Philanthropy in the Arts at the National Arts Awards ceremony.

In celebration of National Arts and Humanities Month, Americans for the Arts organizes the National Arts Awards each October to recognize the achievements of individuals and corporations who have exhibited outstanding leadership in the arts, arts education and philanthropy. Accordingly, the Eli and Edythe Broad Award for Philanthropy is reserved for individuals who have demonstrated an extraordinary commitment of philanthropic generosity to one or more major arts institutions.

The selection of the Pappajohns to receive such a prestigious award should come as no surprise to those that know this incredible couple and their love of the arts. John served on the board of directors of the Des Moines Art Center and continues to be an honorary trustee, while his wife serves as the head of the museum's Acquisition Committee and has continued to serve as an active trustee for nearly two decades. Together they have donated several works of art to the museum, including those that comprise the beloved sculpture park in downtown Des Moines. They have also been members of the National Committee of Performing Arts of the Kennedy Center in Washington, DC for more than two decades and continually rank among the top art collectors in the world.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. and Mrs. Pappajohn's lifelong commitment to philanthropy at the local, state, and national levels cannot be overstated. John and Mary's selfless contributions have changed countless lives for the better and I cannot imagine a more deserved selection for this prestigious award. It is a great honor to represent John and Mary in the United States Congress and I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating them for this momentous recognition and thanking them for their continued dedication to their community and our nation.

WATER RESOURCES REFORM AND DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 2013

SPEECH OF

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 23, 2013

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under

consideration the bill (H.R. 3080) to provide for improvements to the rivers and harbors of the United States, to provide for the conservation and development of water and related resources, and for other purposes:

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Chair, I rise in support of H.R. 3080, the Water Resources Reform and Development Act (WRRDA) of 2013. As the Senior Texan on the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee and cosponsor of this legislation, I am glad to once again be addressing water resources legislation on the House Floor. Such legislation has not been passed by this esteemed Body since 2007, when I served as Chairwoman of the Water Resources and Environment Subcommittee that helped craft and usher the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 2007 into law over a presidential veto. With this background, I understand the challenge of composing and advancing such legislation to this point. I applaud the leadership demonstrated by the Chairman and Ranking Members of both the Full Transportation and Infrastructure Committee and the Water Resources and Environment Subcommittee for bringing this bill to the Floor today.

While I ultimately support the passage of this legislation, I am concerned about the weakening of environmental protections and the ability of the public to participate in that process as a result of the streamlining provisions of this bill. The Army Corps of Engineers project construction backlog and astronomical figure it carries demonstrates that project efficiency must be improved. I understand the desire to expedite Army Corps of Engineers study and project completions, yet do not believe that the environmental safeguards such as the National Environmental Policy Act are the cause of those delays. If properly funded, necessary projects can be completed with appropriate environmental considerations. I am discouraged that environmental protections are being weakened under this guise.

As Co-Chair of the Texas Maritime Caucus, I have supported language in this bill to increase commercial navigation capabilities for Texas' ports and waterways. I am excited about Texas' ports and the role that they play in cultivating the Texas economy, the National economy, and the global economy. With expansive coastlines, established intermodal infrastructure, and strategically beneficial location, maritime commerce has a bright future in Texas. Moreover, the American economy has a brighter future because of Texas' transportation investments and capabilities.

I am glad to have worked in a bipartisan fashion to include language in this legislation for an assessment of the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway. This assessment will be a valuable tool for the State of Texas to determine its current and future operation and maintenance needs for navigation improvements to the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway, allowing it to be utilized more efficiently and productively in maritime commerce.

Further, I supported the inclusion of projects at the Sabine-Neches Waterway, Texas and at Freeport Harbor, Texas—both of which are authorized in this legislation. The Sabine-Neches Waterway project will contribute to the economic effectiveness of commercial navigation in a system of navigation channels in the Sabine-Neches estuary of Texas and Louisiana. The Freeport Harbor project provides

for a deep-draft waterway from the Gulf of Mexico to the City of Freeport through the original mouth of the Brazos River. It will contribute to the economic efficiency of commercial navigation in the region and will significantly improve Freeport Harbor's ability to compete in international maritime commerce.

These projects will help bring nearly a billion dollars of Federal funds to Texas' ports and waterways. In turn, these improvements will be a boon for Texas' economy and the National economy. Further, with the expansion of the Panama Canal, these improvements will allow Texas' ports to play an increased role in the global economy. The increased economic benefit and movement of goods will be felt throughout Texas, including in my home district in Dallas, home to two Class One rail lines, an intermodal facility, numerous interstate highways, and a strong consumer marketplace.

It is my hope that the passage of this legislation will revive the biannual WRDA authorization schedule. Monitoring the streamlining provisions of this bill, as well as assessing the expenditures of the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund will be ripe for reconsideration during the next Congress—as will many other issues. It is my belief that the overall objectives and purposes of water resources legislation are vital to America and should be considered on a biannual basis. The importance of this bill should not be lost in politics.

In closing, I want to once again thank the Chairman and Ranking Members of both the Full Transportation and Infrastructure Committee and the Water Resources and Environment Subcommittee for their leadership in advancing this legislation to the floor today.

VULNERABLE VETERANS HOUSING REFORM ACT OF 2013

SPEECH OF

HON. DEREK KILMER

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 28, 2013

Mr. KILMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1742, the Vulnerable Veterans Housing Reform Act of 2013.

Our country enjoys unparalleled freedom because of the commitment and sacrifice of our troops. I believe that if you serve our country, we should have your back. That means ensuring that military families and veterans have access to the full level of benefits they have earned.

Mr. Speaker, it is unacceptable that the aid and assistance we provide to our heroes and their families, would end up diminishing housing benefits. Treating this allocation as part of the income calculation to determine HUD benefits could lead to an increase in homelessness. Why force our heroes to choose between the care they require and the shelter they need?

H.R. 1742 clarifies that the benefits earned by our military retirees shall remain used to the purposes provided—and that assistance for caring for the disabled shall not jeopardize the ability to get the housing and shelter they require.

Again I am proud to support the Vulnerable Veterans Housing Reform Act of 2013 and urge my colleagues to do the same. Let's con-

tinue our commitment to our veterans. Let us do what we can to honor their service and sacrifices. With more and more servicemen transitioning to veteran status, it's critical that we protect the benefits they have earned in service to their country.

ESTABLISHING COMMISSION OR TASK FORCE TO EVALUATE THE BACKLOG OF DISABILITY CLAIMS

SPEECH OF

HON. LOIS FRANKEL

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 28, 2013

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, the veterans' disability claims backlog is simply unacceptable. American service members who risk their lives to protect our freedoms should not have to wonder if they will receive the basic benefits they deserve. Today, more than 405,000 veterans are waiting for their benefits in this tragically backlogged system. These aren't just numbers. These are real people—heroes who served our country.

Take for example Jeff Colaicovo, a veteran living in my district in South Florida. Jeff received two Purple Hearts for his courageous service during the Vietnam War. He sacrificed for his country, and unbelievably, our claims system failed him.

Until his case was brought to my office's attention earlier this year, Jeff had made little progress towards receiving the benefits he has earned. In fact, he and his wife spent over two years struggling with bills that his benefits should have helped cover. Finally, after reaching out to my office, Jeff began receiving his far-overdue benefits in June. Jeff, along with all of our nation's veterans, deserves better.

Thankfully, today, we took an important step towards helping our veterans by passing H.R. 2189.

Part of the reason veterans often wait so long for their benefits decisions is that the average number of conditions afflicting our veterans has grown significantly. This was true for Jeff whose conditions include PTSD, loss of hearing, irregular heartbeat, and severe back problems. In fact, our service members currently returning home from Iraq and Afghanistan submit an average of 8.5 separate conditions, whereas WWII veterans typically submitted less than three.

Under the current system, each medical condition is individually adjudicated and the veteran only begins receiving benefits once the entire claim has been processed.

H.R. 2189 will address this issue by requiring the Veterans Administration to pay benefits as each element of a veteran's claim is reviewed, rather than when the entire package has been processed. This would allow veterans to begin receiving benefits checks much sooner.

While much more still needs to be done, this is an important step to help repair a broken system.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 29, 2013

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, October 28, I missed a series of roll-call votes. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on Nos. 561 and 562.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE RETIREMENT OF THE HONORABLE JUDGE JOHN D. ALLEN

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 29, 2013

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor and pleasure to extend my personal congratulations and best wishes to a great friend and servant of humankind, Judge John D. Allen, Chief Judge of the Chattahoochee Circuit of the Third Superior Court District of Georgia. Judge Allen will be recognized by the Columbus Bar Association for his distinguished service on Tuesday, October 29, 2013, at the Columbus Convention and Trade Center in Columbus, Georgia. He will be retiring on Thursday, October 31, 2013.

Judge Allen was born on January 17, 1943 in segregated Columbus, Georgia. It seemed like all the odds were against him of one day becoming a Superior Court Judge. Despite the lack of black role models in the law as he was growing up, Judge Allen kept education as his main priority. He graduated from Tuskegee University in 1966 with a Bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering.

A distinguished cadet in the ROTC, Judge Allen was commissioned into the Air Force in 1966 as a 2nd Lieutenant Pilot. He completed Advanced Survival Training in 1967, and he was promoted to 1st Lieutenant/Tactical Fighter Pilot in 1968. Upon completion of course, he was assigned to Southeast Asia and flew 167 combat missions while stationed in Thailand. After promotions to Tactical Aircraft Commander, then to Captain, Judge Allen flew another 127 combat missions in Southeast Asia before returning to Tampa, Florida and serving as an academic and flight instructor until his discharge in July of 1973. He left the Air Force as a highly decorated pilot, earning 23 Air Medals, 2 Air Force Commendation Medals, and numerous other awards for his service during the Vietnam War.

In 1975, Judge Allen earned a Juris Doctor from the University of Florida. He was admitted to the Georgia bar in 1976. From 1976 to 1987, he maintained a private law practice in the Columbus area. At that time, Judge Allen and I were two of only four black lawyers in Columbus.

Judge Allen continued to break barriers when he began serving as a Columbus Recorder's Court judge for a year before assuming a position on the State Court for Muscogee County in 1987. In 1993, he was appointed to the position of Chattahoochee Judicial Circuit Superior Court Judge. He has been re-elected repeatedly since his appointment.

Judge Allen's diligent judicial service has also been mirrored by his extensive involve-

ment with the local and state communities. In conjunction with his professional accomplishments in the Air Force and on the bench, Judge Allen has served on a number of boards and commissions, most notably as Chairman of the Judicial Qualifications Commission, and has received many awards and accolades for his service. Judge Allen's contributions to the Columbus area and the state of Georgia have even earned him recognition from the Columbus Ledger-Enquirer as one of "100 People to Remember for the Century."

None of Judge Allen's momentous accomplishments would have been possible without the enduring love and support of his wife Victoria; children John Jr., Geoffrey, and Kevin; and grandchildren John III and Carson.

A true Georgian devoted to serving his great state, Judge Allen embodies Georgia's state motto, "Wisdom, Justice and Moderation." Judge Allen is a man of great integrity who sets a high standard of values that make for a strong foundation of character in himself and in others. On a personal note, I would like to thank Judge Allen for his friendship, advice and counsel over the years. His wisdom and sage advice have contributed immensely to my success. For that I will always be grateful.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me, my wife Vivian, and the more than 700,000 residents of Georgia's Second Congressional District in honoring Judge John D. Allen for his outstanding professional achievements and dedicated service to his country and to the people of the state of Georgia as he retires from his position as Chief Judge of the Chattahoochee Circuit of the Third Superior Court District of Georgia.

WELCOMING GUEST CHAPLIN JACK HIBBS TO U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HON. GARY G. MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 29, 2013

Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to welcome Pastor Jack Hibbs of Calvary Chapel Chino Hills and thank him for delivering today's opening prayer.

I have known Pastor Hibbs for many years through his teaching of the Lord's message. He is best known for his passion, and great ability to incorporate the Lord's word into our everyday lives.

Each week, thousands come together from all over Southern California to hear his sermons. And his radio broadcast is listened to on five continents.

Pastor Hibbs is the author of "Turnaround at Home," a practical guide to inviting God into your home, and creating positive cycles in marriage and parenting. He and his wife, Lisa, share their own experiences and inspiring stories about understanding how emotional, spiritual and social background factors play into families. And how to make changes for good—starting at home.

I thank Pastor Hibbs for what he's done for my community and sharing his time with us today.

CONGRATULATING SAINT LOUIS DE MONTFORT CATHOLIC SCHOOL, A BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL

HON. SUSAN W. BROOKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 29, 2013

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate an outstanding school in my district that is being honored as a 2013 National Blue Ribbon School. It is a pleasure to congratulate Saint Louis de Montfort Catholic School in Fishers, Indiana in celebration of this special occasion.

The National Blue Ribbon designation, given by the U.S. Department of Education, is awarded to both public and private schools across our great nation. Started by President Reagan and given annually since 1982, the award celebrates great American schools that achieve very high learning standards or are making significant improvements in the academic achievements of their students. In my district and across the country, the award recognizes the great educators, students and parents who have worked so hard to ensure Indiana's children reach their full potential and achieve academic success.

For all of these reasons and many more, I am so proud that Saint Louis de Montfort is receiving this prestigious designation. It is a wonderful acknowledgement of the school's commitment to providing young Hoosiers an exceptional education. While 417 schools nationwide may be nominated, only 286 are chosen as a National Blue Ribbon School, making this recognition all the more impressive.

Serving children from junior kindergarten through eighth grade, Saint Louis de Montfort Catholic School provides its students with an outstanding education in both academics and the Catholic faith. It has consistently been graded as an "A" school by the Indiana Department of Education and is a leader in incorporating technology and learning in the classroom, while also engaging its students in daily prayer, religion classes, liturgical celebrations, and service learning projects. As a mother whose children attended Catholic school, I applaud Saint Louis de Montfort for its work to ensure its students engage with the Hoosier community and remain service-oriented.

As a member of the Education and the Workforce Committee, I also want to acknowledge how important it is to our nation's future to encourage and raise a new generation of Americans who have the skills and knowledge to succeed both in and out of the classroom. Students like those at Saint Louis de Montfort give me hope that we will accomplish this vital mission. Their outstanding work is an inspiration to students, educators and parents across the nation. Once again, congratulations to Saint Louis de Montfort. I am very proud of you.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 29, 2013

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 562 I was unable to be present for the vote on H.R. 2011.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

RECOGNIZING LUCY BILLINGSLEY
AS RECIPIENT OF THE 2013 H.
NEIL MALLON AWARD

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 29, 2013

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Lucy Billingsley who received the 2013 H. Neil Mallon Award from the World Affairs Council on Friday, October 25. Mrs. Billingsley is a Dallas native and well-known real estate developer in North Texas.

Past recipients of the H. Neil Mallon Award include Stanley Marcus, Ray Hunt, President George H.W. Bush, Ross Perot, and Trammell Crow. The World Affairs Council was founded by H. Neil Mallon in 1951 in order to educate and involve Americans in global issues.

The only daughter of developer Trammell Crow Sr., Mrs. Billingsley is not only a local real estate mogul but also has a major global impact. Billingsley serves as the International Board Chair of Women for Women, the Chiapas International Founder, a member of the National Geographic Society Council of Advisors, a member of the Council of Foreign Relations, a member of the Tate Board at Southern Methodist University, and on the University of Texas at Dallas Center for Brain Health Advisory Committee.

Before developing Billingsley Company with her husband, Henry, Mrs. Billingsley was the Chief Executive Officer of the Dallas Market Center and the Crow Design Centers across the United States. Billingsley also grew her travel agency, Wyndham Jade, to be the largest privately owned travel agency in the Southwest. The recently re-imaged and acclaimed Dallas Arts District was just one brain child of Billingsley's many.

Lucy Billingsley has served as an inspiration not only to women of Dallas, but also nationally and internationally. Her humanitarian efforts to promote business and diplomatic relations across the globe will not go unnoticed. Mrs. Billingsley is a personal friend and I applaud her efforts in Dallas and globally.

RECOGNIZING DETECTIVE STEVE
LAIR FOR RECEIVING THE PART-
NERSHIP FOR PUBLIC SAFETY
AWARD

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 29, 2013

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Detective Steve Lair of Carrollton, Texas and his earning of the Partnership for Public Safety award for going above and beyond his normal duties as a Carrollton police officer in his work with an Immigrations and Customs Enforcement Task Force involved in the statewide, multi-agency investigation and prosecution of members of the Aryan Brotherhood of Texas.

The Partnership for Public Safety Award is given to an officer on a local level which

proves critical in the joint actions with Immigrations and Customs Enforcement. Detective Lair was selected from among hundreds of other applicants throughout the nation, where his credentials withstood the rigorous process of approval. The citizens of North Texas are certainly safer due to his actions, and he is a perfect example of how all members of Operation Community Shield Gang Task Force should operate.

In August 2011, Detective Lair was asked to participate in an ongoing investigation of the Aryan Brotherhood of Texas as well as organize Dallas-Fort Worth area law enforcement in an effort to disrupt and dismantle the powerful race-based criminal prison street gang in North Texas. As a direct result of the actions of the law enforcement agencies Detective Lair organized, three Aryan Brotherhood of Texas members have been indicted, one of which has pleaded guilty. The overall case currently has 36 defendants who have been indicted on racketeering charges. Detective Lair has been instrumental in coordinating the flow of information between agency partners and the Special Prosecutor from the Department of Justice Organized Crime and Gang Section. Additionally, he has been essential in the development of confidential sources, providing information on numerous short term investigations of both federal and state violations.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 24th Congressional District of Texas, I ask all my distinguished colleagues to join me in recognizing the work of Detective Steve Lair and congratulating him on this prestigious award.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF THE AMER-
ICAN JAZZ VOCALIST GLORIA
LYNNE

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 29, 2013

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the passing of one of Harlem's most talented musicians, and a dear friend of mine, the late Gloria Lynne. As I speak with grief of such an overwhelming loss, I join my community in rejoicing a life well-lived and to celebrate the accomplishments of a remarkable woman. At 83, Gloria remained a golden child of Harlem, and with an incredible soul touching the lives of everyone who met her. Her passing on October 15th, 2013 at Columbus Hospital in Newark, N.J., brought immense sorrow to the countless fans of and individuals associated with the R&B, jazz, and pop genres.

Gloria Lynne was born in Harlem on November 23, 1929. Throughout her lengthy career, which spanned more than five decades, her signature resonant contralto could be recognized on more than 25 albums. During her extraordinary life, Gloria Lynne brought great pride to her beloved neighborhood by releasing such hits as her English rendition of "I Wish You Love" and receiving a multitude of awards, including the Outstanding Achievement in Jazz at the New York MAC awards, International Women of Jazz Award and having the City of New York proclaim July 25, 1995 as "Gloria Lynne Day."

Gloria displayed immense talent and love for her community, participating in her local

church choir and winning first prize at the "Amateur Night" at the Apollo at 15. As she grew famous she never forgot her hometown, despite sharing the stage with many renowned names, including artists such as Quincy Jones, Ray Charles and Ella Fitzgerald.

Gloria will be long remembered for her extraordinary voice, charisma, discipline, spirit, and clear purpose which won the admiration of all who were privileged to come to know and work with her during her distinguished career in and around music. I consider myself fortunate to have had the opportunity to enjoy her music and observe her example as a personal inspiration.

But most of all Gloria Lynne was a loving mother and sister, and is survived by her son P.J. Allen and her brother John Wilson who now inherit the solemn pride of having known Ms. Lynne so closely.

Mr. Speaker, rather than mourn her passing, I hope that my colleagues will join me in celebrating the life of my friend Gloria Lynne by remembering that she exemplified greatness in every way.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 29, 2013

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 561 I was unable to be present for the vote on H.R. 2189. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

CONGRATULATING THE NORTHERN
VIRGINIA BLACK CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE, INC., AND THE
GLOBAL BUSINESS NETWORK AS-
SOCIATION

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 29, 2013

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Northern Virginia Black Chamber of Commerce, Inc. (NVBCC) and the Global Business Network Association (GBNA) on five years of dedicated achievement, and to recognize the Celebration Gala and Awards Dinner being held to commemorate this auspicious occasion.

This year not only marks a milestone for both organizations, it signals the emergence of an improving economy five years after the economic strife that impacted the globe. The Celebration Gala and Awards Dinner will honor the achievements of business leaders and young scholars in our region who are significantly contributing to a more robust economy and vibrant business community.

The NVBCC is creating opportunities for businesses and entrepreneurs to build networks, obtain practical professional development, and gain the skills to strategically grow companies. The Chamber delivers products and services designed to maximize investment, including networking events, seminars, and resources, connecting members, companies, fellow entrepreneurs, public and private leaders who can help advance businesses

and inform on the economic, legal, policy, social, cultural and other factors that impact black-owned businesses.

GBNA is a regional network of business and nonprofit leaders that represents all industry sectors. Founded in 2007, GBNA's membership consists of start-up and experienced entrepreneurs and businesses. GBNA has assisted the local business community by working to bring the issues and concerns of small businesses to the forefront of the national economic agenda.

Mr. Speaker, we applaud the work of these two venerable institutions in Northern Virginia, and send our best wishes for a successful celebration dinner.

CONGRATULATING SAINT MARIA GORETTI SCHOOL, A BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL

HON. SUSAN W. BROOKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 29, 2013

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate an outstanding school in my district that is being honored as a 2013 National Blue Ribbon School. It is a pleasure to congratulate Saint Maria Goretti School in Westfield, Indiana in celebration of this special occasion.

The National Blue Ribbon designation, given by the U.S. Department of Education, is awarded to both public and private schools across our great nation. Started by President Reagan and given annually since 1982, the award celebrates great American schools that achieve very high learning standards or are making significant improvements in the academic achievements of their students. In my district and across the country, the award recognizes the great educators, students and parents who have worked so hard to ensure Indiana's children reach their full potential and achieve academic success.

For all of these reasons and many more, I am so proud that Saint Maria Goretti School is receiving this prestigious designation. It is a wonderful acknowledgement of the school's commitment to providing young Hoosiers an exceptional education. While 417 schools nationwide may be nominated, only 286 are chosen as a National Blue Ribbon School, making this recognition all the more impressive.

Since opening in 1996, Saint Maria Goretti School has consistently provided its students with an outstanding education in both academics and the Catholic faith and currently serves 460 students in grades K–8. The school starts each day with a prayer that provides guiding principles for its students. As a mother whose children attended Catholic school, I applaud Saint Maria Goretti for its work to develop each child in mind, body, and spirit.

As a member of the Education and the Workforce Committee, I also want to acknowledge how important it is to our nation's future to encourage and raise a new generation of Americans who have the skills and knowledge to succeed both in and out of the classroom. Students like those at Saint Maria Goretti School give me hope that we will accomplish this vital mission. Their outstanding work is an inspiration to students, educators and parents

across the nation. Once again, congratulations to Saint Maria Goretti School. I am very proud of you.

RECOGNIZING THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF LINDENWOOD UNIVERSITY-BELLEVILLE

HON. WILLIAM L. ENYART

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 29, 2013

Mr. ENYART. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the 10th Anniversary of Lindenwood University-Belleville.

While Lindenwood University-Belleville, at 10 years old, is a relative newcomer for institutions of higher learning, it is part of Lindenwood University which has a long history in the Midwest. Founded in 1827 in St. Charles, Missouri, Lindenwood University is the second oldest college west of the Mississippi River.

As a four-year liberal arts university with a rich tradition in the St. Louis metropolitan area, the administration of Lindenwood University began talks with city leaders in Belleville, Illinois around 2001, looking to expand the university to the east side of the Mississippi River. The Belleville High School District had recently moved the location of the Belleville West High School to another location, leaving an existing facility ready for use. Talks proved fruitful and Lindenwood University acquired the 22 acre tract of land for its Belleville campus in November of 2003.

The first classes for LU-Belleville were held in the Spring Quarter of 2004 for an incoming class of 52 students. Initially only offering evening classes, the first programs were a Master of Arts in Education and Education Administration.

Today, LU-Belleville has over 1,000 full-time students enrolled in a wide range of academic programs with hundreds more in graduate, continuing education and specialized programs. In its first decade, LU-Belleville has grown into a strong and vibrant institution that contributes much to the richness of Belleville and to the higher education choices of Southern Illinois.

This past spring, I had the high honor of addressing graduates at LU-Belleville's first commencement exercises. I quoted Lindenwood University's mission statement to provide programs "leading to the development of the whole person—an educated, responsible citizen of a global community." In its first decade, LU-Belleville has done just that.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the administration, faculty, staff and student body of Lindenwood University-Belleville on the occasion of their 10th Anniversary and wishing them continued success for many more years to come.

RECOGNITION OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 29, 2013

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Do-

mestic Violence Awareness Month. During each October since 1981, we mourn those who have died due to domestic violence, celebrate those who have survived, and connect those who work to end violence.

Many of us know someone who has suffered from domestic violence. Whether you are a sibling, parent, or friend, your support is necessary. Each day, three women die as a result of domestic violence. Your support could turn a battered woman into a survivor.

Domestic violence not only affects more than 12 million people each year, but one in four women have been a victim of physical violence by a partner. The Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) is a helpful tool to combat violence, but the fight against domestic violence must continue. VAWA improved the criminal justice response to violence against women and the reauthorization this year extends protection to native women, lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender individuals.

Though policies are put in place to end domestic violence and to support women who are survivors, it is essential that we also provide critical resources to save lives and prevent future domestic crimes. When women are silent, domestic violence thrives. But when women speak out, domestic violence can end. I urge my colleagues to support programs and shelters nationwide that provide safety for the many survivors each day.

HONORING CHARLES L. BLOCKSON

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 29, 2013

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the scholarship and dedication of historian Charles L. Blockson, upon the occasion of the publication of his latest book—The President's House Revisited Behind The Scenes: The Samuel Fraunces Story. For most of his life Mr. Blockson has collected and preserved African and African American historical tomes, art and artifacts. In 2001 I was privileged to have sponsored an appropriation to fund the digitalization of the Collection.

Housed at Temple University, the Collection is one of the nation's leading research facilities for the study of the history and culture of Africans of the Diaspora with special emphasis on the lives and experiences of African Americans in Philadelphia and the surrounding Delaware Valley.

I am proud to know this much esteemed and dedicated man who has provided us with a window into the lives of the African and African Americans who too often have been written out of history. I salute Charles L. Blockson, a distinguished scholar.

HONORING BENAVIDEZ-PATTERSON "ALL AIRBORNE" CHAPTER, 82ND AIRBORNE DIVISION ASSOCIATION

HON. BETO O'ROURKE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 29, 2013

Mr. O'ROURKE. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize the Benavidez-Patterson "All Airborne" Chapter of the 82nd Airborne Division,

a distinguished Veterans Service Organization in El Paso, Texas.

The Benavidez-Patterson "All-Airborne" Chapter is comprised of current and former military paratroopers. The unit develops new relationships and cultivates existing bonds among those who have served in the Airborne; honors the memory of troopers who died in service; and informs its members of legislative changes and policy ideas relevant to veterans.

With 250 members, the Benavidez-Patterson Chapter is the largest "All-Airborne" chapter in Texas and has included representation from virtually every Airborne unit since World War II. It is comprised of national heroes. Members have included veteran paratroopers who had combat assignments in Africa, Sicily, Italy, France, The Netherlands, Belgium, Germany, Korea, the Dominican Republic, Vietnam, Grenada, Panama, Iraq and Afghanistan, along with others currently deployed in the Middle East. Members have included one of the original Darby's Rangers and a Pathfinder on D-Day. Others were involved in "Operation: Overlord" into Normandy, France, on D-Day; "Operation: Market Garden" in Holland; and the "Battle of the Bulge."

Chartered in August 1985, the Benavidez-Patterson "All-Airborne" Chapter is named in honor of the late MSG Roy P. Benavidez and CSM Robert Patterson (Ret.), both recipients of the Medal of Honor. The Chapter was further honored through the membership of Medal of Honor recipients COL. Joseph Rodriguez (Deceased) of El Paso and LTC (Ret.) Alfred Rascon. Other distinguished members have included MG Howard Bromberg; BG Shuffer, a statesman, author and paratrooper; in addition to LTG Lionetti, MG Lennox, MG Cravens, MG Infante, MG Little, MG Oblinger and MG Michael G. Vane.

I thank the Benavidez-Patterson "All-Airborne" Chapter for their commitment to honoring our veterans and for helping to strengthen the bonds among service members and veterans in the El Paso community.

HONORING LAUREN HALLSTROM

HON. CORY GARDNER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 29, 2013

Mr. GARDNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Lauren Hallstrom from Douglas County, Colorado. Last November, sixteen-year-old Lauren participated in Douglas County Libraries' National Novel Writing Month (NaNoWriMo) and authored an entire novel in only 30 days.

Miss Hallstrom's novel, *Dreamweaver*, tells the tale of a girl named Audrey in a place called Fortune. The novel follows Audrey's efforts to rid her town of bad luck after an unlucky penny wreaks havoc on Fortune and its citizens. This intriguing story and Lauren's outstanding efforts were recognized when *Dreamweaver* was announced the winner of the Douglas County Libraries' novel-writing contest last February.

As part of Lauren's prize, Douglas County Libraries provided editing and cover design services for *Dreamweaver*, and it is now possible to find Lauren's book on both Bookcrafters.net and Amazon.com. Such lit-

erary success is truly remarkable for a sixteen-year-old.

I am extremely honored to represent this talented young woman. Please join me in congratulating Lauren on the publication of her first novel. I hope we continue to see many more from her in the future.

SUPPORT OF A WOMAN'S RIGHT TO CHOOSE

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 29, 2013

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the recent determination by a federal judge that new Texas abortion restrictions directly violate the U.S. Constitution. When Governor Rick Perry signed into law Texas H.B. 2, a smattering of new limitations on access to abortion, he threatened to take away a woman's right to choose.

The Texas law would ban abortions 20 weeks after fertilization, mandate that abortion providers have admitting privileges at a hospital within 30 miles of the facility, and requires doctors to administer the abortion-inducing medication in person rather than at home. These provisions would cause dozens of abortion clinics to shutter their doors, restricting access to women.

District Judge Lee Yeakel struck down the regulation that would require doctors to have admitting privileges at nearby hospitals, a notion that creates an undue obstacle for women seeking an abortion. Yeakel also blocked the provision that would require physicians to follow U.S. Food and Drug Administration procedure for abortion medication because a physician can ultimately determine what route of medication is best for the preservation of the life or health of the mother.

Unfortunately, the law still bans abortions at 20 weeks of pregnancy and requires all physicians to perform abortions in surgical facilities. Restricting care for women is unconscionable. Currently, a woman's access to abortion depends mostly on her zip code. While the U.S. Constitution federally protects women, states with anti-abortion leaders impose restrictive laws. These state laws cannot stand up to the U.S. Constitution.

I urge my colleagues to support a woman's right to choose, a law that was established in 1973 with the decision made in *Roe v. Wade*. I am proud to stand as a pro-choice legislator and vow to protect fair access to abortions in my state.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 29, 2013

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$17,081,509,219,288.50. We've added \$6,454,632,170,375.42 to our debt in 4

years. This is \$6.4 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

HONORING SERGEANT PAUL CAVALLARO

HON. TOM MARINO

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 29, 2013

Mr. MARINO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Sergeant Paul Cavallaro of the Pennsylvania State Police.

Sergeant Cavallaro has been serving the citizens of Pennsylvania as a State Trooper since 1992. He has served in numerous patrol and crime units in stations throughout the Commonwealth. He has held numerous roles within the State Police such as: Alternate Identification Unit Officer, Alternate CIA officer, Patrol Unit Supervisor, Criminal Investigation Unit Supervisor, Patrol Section Supervisor, and his most recent title as Station Commander.

Sergeant Cavallaro has received letters of commendation in 2002 and 2008, and received a nomination for the International Association of Chiefs of Police Trooper of the Year Award in 2003. Additionally, he has also received letters of appreciation from the Pike County District Attorney's Office and the Monmouth & Ocean County Intelligence Bureau.

As a member of the Pennsylvania State Police, Sergeant Cavallaro has obtained training in wiretap, street gangs, domestic violence, hate crimes, advanced crime scene investigation, terrorism awareness, FBI post blast investigations, interview and interrogation, advanced hidden compartments and has received special deputation as a United States Marshall.

Along with his duties as Station Commander, Sergeant Cavallaro is a bugler for the Pennsylvania State Police Ceremonial Unit, negotiator with the Special Emergency Response Team and he sponsors the annual Troop R Cadet Golf Tournament. In his spare time he coaches youth baseball, hockey, football and soccer.

Mr. Speaker, Sergeant Cavallaro has devoted his life to serving his community and others; it is with great pride that I honor him today.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 29, 2013

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to have my votes recorded on the House floor on Monday, October 28, 2013. I had family obligations that kept me in Wisconsin. Had I been present, I would have voted in favor of H.R. 2189 (rollcall No. 561) and in favor of H.R. 2011 (rollcall No. 562).

CONGRATULATING CREEKSIDE
MIDDLE SCHOOL, A BLUE RIB-
BON SCHOOL

HON. SUSAN W. BROOKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 29, 2013

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate an outstanding school in my district that is being honored as a 2013 National Blue Ribbon School. It is a pleasure to congratulate Creekside Middle School in Carmel, Indiana in celebration of this special occasion.

The National Blue Ribbon designation, given by the U.S. Department of Education, is awarded to both public and private schools across our great nation. Started by President Reagan and given annually since 1982, the award celebrates great American schools that achieve very high learning standards or are making significant improvements in the academic achievements of their students. In my district and across the country, the award recognizes the great educators, students and parents who have worked so hard to ensure Indiana's children reach their full potential and achieve academic success.

For all of these reasons and many more, I am so proud that Creekside is receiving this prestigious designation. It is a wonderful acknowledgement of the school's commitment to providing young Hoosiers an exceptional education. While 417 schools nationwide may be nominated, only 286 are chosen as a National Blue Ribbon School, making this recognition all the more impressive.

Since opening ten years ago, Creekside has grown tremendously and now serves nearly 1,500 students. Creekside has also consistently placed as one of Indiana's top middle schools. I applaud its administrators and teachers for their focus on rigorous and relevant curriculum that will help students succeed in their future endeavors.

As a member of the Education and the Workforce Committee, I also want to acknowledge how important it is to our nation's future to encourage and raise a new generation of Americans who have the skills and knowledge to succeed both in and out of the classroom. Students like those at Creekside give me hope that we will accomplish this vital mission. Their outstanding work is an inspiration to students, educators and parents across the nation. Once again, congratulations to Creekside. I am very proud of you.

RECOGNIZING DR. CATALINA
GARCIA

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 29, 2013

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Catalina Garcia, an accomplished anesthesiologist from El Paso, Texas, and one of the first Mexican-Americans to graduate from the UT Southwestern Medical School. Dr. Garcia is being honored as a "Latina Living Legend" by the DFW Hispanic 100, a local service organization that enables Hispanic women to participate in social issues.

Dr. Garcia was inspired early in her youth to pursue a career in medicine. From a family of doctors, dentists, and pharmacists, Dr. Garcia grew up with the value of helping others embedded in her psyche. Today, Dr. Garcia blazed her own path as a prominent community leader.

In addition to her accomplishments in medicine, Dr. Garcia spearheaded a number of philanthropic endeavors. She is a founding member of the Dallas Women's Foundation, an organization that promotes women's issues through education, and dedicates much of her time to teach English to immigrant women.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Garcia deserves great recognition for her efforts to empower members of our community. Dr. Garcia demonstrated tremendous resolve in bringing community-oriented services to Texas, and I am proud to recognize her many accomplishments.

ESTABLISHING COMMISSION OR
TASK FORCE TO EVALUATE THE
BACKLOG OF DISABILITY
CLAIMS

SPEECH OF

HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 28, 2013

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the passage of H.R. 2189, a bipartisan bill that among many things will finally recognize the valiant service of Merchant Mariners that operated domestically during World War II. It has been my honor for the past three Congresses to introduce legislation that would recognize these brave Americans and correct an injustice that has remained for over 70 years.

The Merchant Marine were private citizens employed by freight shipping companies. In an effort to support the American war effort during World War II, those same freight shipping companies and their employees became an auxiliary to the United States Navy. Their mission was to transport bulk war materials including food, clothing, weapons, and even troops to all areas of conflict and coastal installations here at home.

During the World War II war effort, many of these mariners were tasked with the critically important role of transporting materials along the U.S. coast using tugboats and barges. Although these mariners did not sail across the Atlantic or Pacific Oceans into areas of conflict, they still encountered the enemy while delivering cargo that kept the war effort moving forward. One tugboat, the *Menomonee*, operating just off the coast of Virginia on March 31st, 1942, was sunk by German U-Boat 754 tragically killing several members of the crew.

This tragic story has been the impetus for the legislation I have introduced in the past three Congresses to finally honor this small group of unsung heroes. In fact, a North Carolinian, Don Horton, whose brother William Lee Horton, Jr. was on that tugboat and lost his life aboard the ship that rescued him from the ocean and debris, has been the driving force behind this legislative effort. William Lee Horton, Jr., was 17 at the time of his death while bravely serving his country. Many members of Don Horton's family served on these tugboats

and barges during World War II in support of the war effort. Don Horton has become the foremost expert on this forgotten segment of the World War II Merchant Marine, and has worked tirelessly to see mariners like his brother gain the recognition as veterans that they rightly deserve and earned through service to their country.

The ranks of these coastwise tugboats and barges were not solely operated by men, but also women, as in the case of the Horton family. Don Horton's mother and sister, along with many other women, served alongside their male counterparts, but were never issued formal documentation for their service aboard these vessels because of an order by the War Shipping Administration. Many male Merchant Mariners that operated domestically were also never issued formal documentation or the documentation that was issued is extremely hard to find today because many of these documents were ordered destroyed by the U.S. Government.

Currently, a certificate of shipping and discharge forms, continuous deck or engine logbooks, and shipping company records that indicate the vessel names and dates of voyages are the only documents that are considered acceptable to determine an individual's service in the Merchant Marine. In fact, by order of the Coast Guard Commandant, captains of tugboats and seagoing barges were relieved of the responsibility of submitting reports of seamen shipped or discharged. The deck or engine logbooks were turned over to the War Shipping Administration and were ordered destroyed because they were too "voluminous to maintain, costly to keep, and rarely used for research." Shipping company records that indicate the vessel names and dates of voyages likely never existed because written communication relating to the movement of supplies and troops was strictly forbidden by U.S. military commanders.

After 70 long years, the passage of H.R. 2189 finally offers these mariners a chance to receive the recognition they deserve. H.R. 2189 expands the acceptable forms of documentation used to determine eligible service in the Merchant Marine. The bill allows Social Security Administration records, validated testimony by the applicant or closest living relative, and other official records that provide sufficient proof of service.

Mr. Speaker, estimates show that there are fewer than 2,000 of these mariners surviving today. It's time to finally recognize these mariners for their service to our country. I want to thank my colleagues in the House for supporting these brave men and women that served in the Merchant Marine during World War II, and I implore my colleagues in the Senate to consider this legislation as quickly as possible and support its passage.

HONORING THE REV. THOMAS E.
GILMORE

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 29, 2013

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate the extraordinary contributions of Rev. Thomas E. Gilmore, a Civil Rights icon and Alabama

treasure who was the first black sheriff elected to serve in Greene County, Alabama. Recently, the courthouse square in Greene County was named in honor of this American hero and I am honored to join with my home State in saluting the numerous contributions of this American hero.

Rev. Gilmore was born on May 1, 1941 in Forkland, Alabama to Beatrice O'Neal and a loving grandmother, Clara Gilmore. Throughout his lifetime, Rev. Gilmore has often credited his journey of greatness to the unyielding love of both of these extraordinary women. Today, he reflects on the passion, wisdom and courage they instilled in him that served as cornerstones for his desire to make a difference.

Gilmore attended Greene County public schools and later enrolled in Selma University in 1959. Shortly after, he married his childhood sweetheart, the late Minnie Gilmore, whom Rev. Gilmore also credited for being a source of great strength throughout their 35-year partnership. The young couple left Alabama briefly for a move to Los Angeles, but the native son made the decision to return home in 1963.

Gilmore returned home to an Alabama that was plagued by the perils of racism and injustice. And one evening, as Gilmore was headed to a local gas station to purchase milk for his young son, he fell victim to a painful reminder of the racial turbulence in Greene County. As he drove, Gilmore unknowingly ran into a puddle of water and splashed a white state trooper. Assuming that Gilmore was a civil rights worker, the trooper retaliated by pushing Gilmore against a gas pump and forcing him to wash his car. At that moment, the young minister was led to make a difference and he was inspired to find ways to end police brutality.

Gilmore became active in the local civil rights movement and mass meetings and was later recruited by the Rev. James Orange to work for Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. Under Dr. King's leadership, Gilmore helped to organize and lead voter registration drives.

The impetus for Gilmore's run for sheriff stems from his efforts in attempting to file a complaint against a local officer that assaulted a young black woman. During his attempt, the Greene County Sheriff savagely beat Gilmore in the district attorney's office. Shortly after the incident, Gilmore and other local civil rights leaders constructed the idea that he should run for sheriff to combat the violence that was brewing in Greene County, Selma and surrounding areas.

At the age of 24, this young warrior launched his first campaign for sheriff in 1966. Today, he describes his candidacy as "unheard of." While he was unsuccessful on his first attempt, he was elected four years later. He served as Sheriff of Greene County from 1971–1983. When asked what it was like to be a trailblazer, this humble servant simply replied "I thought about being the best sheriff I could be . . . I thought about walking tall."

During his influential tenure, Gilmore became known as "The Sheriff Without A Gun." Led by the nonviolent teachings he learned during his time as a civil rights activist, Gilmore endeavored to govern through the use of non-violence. Gilmore retired as Sheriff in 1983 and relocated to Birmingham to serve as Pastor of First Baptist Church in Ensley, AL.

Today Rev. Gilmore remains a dedicated Pastor, leader, and servant.

Rev. Gilmore's many accomplishments are an inspiration to us all. He is truly an Alabama treasure and an American hero worthy of recognition. On behalf of the 7th Congressional District, the State of Alabama and this nation, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life and legacy Rev. Thomas E. Gilmore.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. WILLIAM L. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 29, 2013

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, I had to tend to a personal matter in Plattsburgh, NY. Consequently, I was not able to return to Washington, D.C. in time to vote on H.R. 2189, a Bill to Improve the Processing of Disability Claims by the Department of Veterans Affairs (rollcall No. 561) and H.R. 2011, the Veterans' Advisory Committee on Education Improvement Act (rollcall No. 562). As a veteran and representative of thousands of other veterans, making sure the men and women who served our Nation have access to the care they deserve is one of my top priorities. Had I been present to vote, I would have voted "yea" for both bills.

HONORING PROFESSOR TERENCE J. ANDERSON ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT AS PROFESSOR OF LAW EMERITUS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI SCHOOL OF LAW

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 29, 2013

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my good friend, Professor Terence J. Anderson on the occasion of his retirement as Professor of Law Emeritus at the University of Miami School of Law. Professor Anderson is not only one of the most revered and respected law professors in the United States, but his legal jurisprudence far exceeds the boundaries of this nation, as his students and his influence span the globe.

Professor Anderson is an intellectual giant in the law and over the course of his career has demonstrated acute success as a practicing lawyer, an international courts commissioner, and an academic dean. His knowledge of constitutional law is renown, and he has become not only a trusted advisor to me throughout my legal career, but a good friend, too.

Since he joined the Law School faculty at the University of Miami in 1976 as a prized professorial recruit of the late Soia Mentschikoff, then-Dean of the Law School, Professor Anderson has been an indelible influence on virtually every aspect of law student and faculty life. Upon graduating from the University of Chicago Law School in 1964, he served for two years as a regional courts commissioner in Malawi, Africa as a member of the Peace Corps, practiced commercial and corporate transactional law for seven years in

Chicago, and taught law and served as academic dean at the cutting-edge Antioch School of Law in Washington, DC.

As a law professor, he has been instrumental in helping students develop the analytical and critical thinking skills needed to successfully provide valued legal representation. Known for his demanding pursuit of perfection, Prof. Anderson's first-year elements course and upper-class evidence class were legendary for their reputation as both impossible to master yet required for those desiring to become formidable advocates. Having perfected Henry Wigmore's chart method of constructing arguments about questions of fact in complex cases, using boxes, circles and arrows, Prof. Anderson mystified the uninitiated but brought enlightenment and depth to the truly dedicated.

Professor Anderson's long-time collaboration with Professor William Twining in Great Britain and the United States redefined the law of evidence, culminating in a 27-year adventure with the publication of the critically acclaimed *Analysis of Evidence*. The analytical structure that Prof Anderson developed is not confined to legal jurisprudence, as he and Prof. Twining are now applying their principles to such varied domains as archeology and the applied sciences.

His meticulous attention to detail and perfection has produced a body of work that stands the test of time. His quick-thinking, crisp and clear arguments, and quick-fire repartee has been known to both amaze and confuse, all for the purpose of striking at the core of even the most intractable problems. His students remain passionate, as he is, about evidence, argumentation, and advocacy.

Professor Anderson knows no distinction between legal theory and practice, following in the footsteps of the great legal thinker Karl Llewellyn and his mentor Soia Mentschikoff, both of whom rejected any sharp divide between the two. His skills were much in demand when, during his 1994–1995 fellowship at the Netherlands Institute for Advanced Studies in Wassenaar, he lectured extensively on the American criminal process as the world focused on the unfolding O.J. Simpson trial. During that period, Professor Anderson developed an "audit model" that critically analyzed and explained how the Dutch system of criminal procedure was different from but no less as effective as the American adversarial system.

Through nearly 50 years as a gifted lawyer, advocate, professor, public servant, community conscience, international observer, family man, and legend, Terry Anderson has been a gift to the law and the legions of lawyers who owe their skills and successes to him. In ways both monumental and profound, Terry Anderson has changed for the better the course of the law and legal education in the United States and beyond. He truly represents the best of the American legal system.

Mr. Speaker, on the occasion of his Celebration of A Life of the Law at the University of Miami School of Law on November 7, 2013, I am proud to recognize his outstanding legacy that will remain for all time an important component of the history of the United States of America.

HURRICAN SANDY: ONE YEAR
LATER

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 29, 2013

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise as we recognize the anniversary of Hurricane Sandy, which made landfall in New Jersey one year ago today.

By now, we all know that Sandy was a storm of epic proportions. In New Jersey, 357,000 homes were damaged or destroyed, and 2.7 million households were left without power—some for weeks.

We pause to remember the over 3 dozen New Jerseyans tragically killed by the storm. It is only thanks to the heroic efforts of our first responders that many more were saved from the rising waters.

As media coverage focused on the destruction to shore communities, inland towns along the Hackensack River in Northern New Jersey were also being inundated by floodwaters.

The towns of Little Ferry and Moonachie in Bergen County were particularly hard hit. About 90 percent of the homes there were damaged or destroyed.

Over \$19.6 million in Individual Assistance from FEMA has been awarded in my district, including \$9.3 million in Little Ferry and \$6.2 million in Moonachie—two working class towns with a combined population of just over 13,000.

We have come far over the past year, but we still have a long way to go moving forward.

Moonachie's Borough Hall, which houses the municipal government and public safety department, is still operating out of temporary trailers.

In Little Ferry, many homeowners were only recently informed that after spending thousands on repairs, the extent of the damage was severe enough that their homes would

have to be elevated—weeks after grant programs to help fund the elevations had closed their applications.

Unfortunately, the State of New Jersey has been slow to spend its initial allocation of HUD funding provided under the Sandy supplemental appropriations legislation. According to some estimates, just 25 percent of the funding allocated for housing programs has gone out the door to those in need.

With the next round of Community Development Block Grant—Disaster Recovery funding on the way for the regions impacted, I will be fighting to ensure that these critical aid dollars go towards addressing our outstanding needs and priorities quickly and efficiently.

Sandy taught us how utterly vulnerable we are when disaster strikes—a lesson we cannot soon forget.

As we continue to rebuild for the long term, we need to focus on finding solutions which will make our communities more resilient to better protect us from future storms.

We must also work towards reducing our carbon emissions in order to slow the warming of our climate, which is driving stronger storms, sea level rise, and more severe weather.

As we move into the second year of our recovery efforts, I urge my colleagues to stay firm in their resolve to support us in the work we still have ahead of us.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL WORK AND FAMILY MONTH

HON. ALAN GRAYSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 29, 2013

Mr. GRAYSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of National Work and Family Month. As a father of five, I understand the constant struggle faced by American families to balance

their work and family life. Policies that promote work-life balance can, and have, helped to create healthier, more flexible work environments.

Today's families are increasingly likely to include two working parents. In addition to caring for children, a number of working-age adults face other demands on their time such as caring for an aging parent. To meet the needs of a modern workforce, many companies have created work-life programs to assist employees in balancing their jobs with their personal commitments.

Studies show that both employees and employers benefit from work-life flexibility programs. Benefits from such programs include increased productivity, recruitment, retention, and employee satisfaction. Work-life initiatives lead to better business, higher employee morale, and healthier families.

In today's economy, public and private employers, including our government, are finding it is not only necessary, but beneficial to support work-life balance. With this in mind, I have introduced the 'Paid Vacation Act' (H.R. 2096) to provide workers one week of paid leave annually under the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA). My bill would provide much needed time off to the one in four Americans, working in the private sector, who do not receive any paid vacation.

Today's employees work longer and harder than ever before. I strongly support policies, like paid vacation leave and sick leave, that allow workers to spend more time with their families, improve their mental and physical health, and ultimately be more productive. We in Congress must take National Work and Family Month as an opportunity to consider how to better promote work-life programs and policies that will benefit working families.

This October, in honor of National Work and Family Month, I encourage my colleagues to acknowledge the positive impacts of a healthy work-life balance on family life and the workforce.